# Iowa Council for Early ACCESS Minutes May 16, 2008

**Members Present:** Kyla Alba, Scott Beall, Nancy Bobo, Jane Borst, Angela Burke Boston, LaMark Combs, Gina Greene, Kelly Hancock, Ron Koch, Jan Mackey, Troy McCarthy, Barb Merrill, Carolyn Nelson, Mary Nelson, LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, Debra Sixta, Mary Stevens,

**Excused:** Daryl Beall, Mary Jane Brotherson, Andrew Hall, Pablo Quintanilla, Maureen Schletzbaum, Carrie Sodders, David Van Horn, Shanell Wagler, Brian Wilkes

Staff: Julie Curry, Barb Khal, Kelly Schulte, Lisa Sharp, Susan White

Guests: Heather and Suzie Moorman, Analisa Pearson, and Dann Stevens

#### Call to Order:

Troy called the meeting to order and introductions of Council members and visitors took place. Quorum is established.

#### **Approval of November Minutes:**

Troy entertained a motion for approval of the January 18, 2008, and March 21, 2008 minutes. LauraBelle noted the correction that Jeff Anderson was the replacement for Mary Nelson not Mary Stevens at the January meeting. Correction was made and motioned carried for approval for both dates. The Council approved the January 18, 2008 minutes with the one correction and approved the March 21, 2008 minutes as entered.

### Family Story/Heather and Suzie Moorman:

Heather introduced her daughter, Suzanne Moorman, "a miracle in motion", to the Council. Suzanne is 3 ½ years old and has severe hydrocephalus, which is a birth defect that occurs during the first weeks of intrauterine life because of the buildup of excess cerebrospinal fluid within the brain. Suzanne has two older sisters, Samantha and Sarah, who help with Suzanne's progress. Heather shared photos of the family and shared how well Suzanne is progressing. Suzanne can walk with the assistance of a walker, and continues to learn how to speak and communicate with friends and family.

#### **Executive Committee Update/Troy McCarthy:**

Medicaid: Troy updated Council members about the federal Medicaid Rule. The effective date began on March 3, 2008. The Iowa Rule change will be sent to the Kansas City office, (the regional Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for approval. Department of Human Services (DHS) will be held responsible to both the rules and guidance CMS puts out. The rule change states there will be only one targeted case manager per child. The family makes the choice which person will be their Targeted Case

Manager. This person is expected to manage all Medicaid programs for that family and address a wider scope of needs.

There are 212 children, birth to three, on waiver programs of which 185 (87%) are already on Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs). 60% of children in Early ACCESS are on Medicaid. There could be a huge impact on training and other system components.

Signatory Update: The Signatory Agencies continue to meet to commit to programs and services for Early ACCESS birth to 3 years old as they work on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The agencies working together are: Human Services (DHS), and Public Health (IDPH), and Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC). The representatives have been meeting with Thomas Mayes, DE Legal Consultant, to work through the legalities and law requirements of the MOA. The duration of the MOA is five years. Once the agreement is finalized it will be prepared for submission due in May, 2008.

#### Lead Agency & Signatory Staff Update: LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl

<u>State legislature:</u> The state legislature appropriation was sustained to obtain last year's Part C funding. This impacts Child Health Specialty Clinics and service coordinators.

<u>Part C Federal Funds:</u> Iowa timely submitted its annual application for Federal Part C Funds, April 28, 2008. The application was open for public comment for 60 days, with no comments submitted. The U.S. Congress must pass funding bills before the final allocation is determined.

<u>Family Support:</u> State funds were appropriated to fund a state coordinator of family support programs throughout Iowa. Janet Gartin has been hired to coordinate the programs and build a system of family support. She works out of the Office of Empowerment, Department of Management. Early ACCESS is one of the many family supported systems involved in this work. If interested in getting involved, please contact Janet Gartin at 515 242-5895 or by email, <u>janet.gartin@iowa.gov</u>

#### Quality Service Review/Barb Khal:

Barb presented an update on Quality Service Review (QSR) in region 12. The QSR measures performance and results to show what's working and not working in the Early ACCESS system. The QSR reviews ten cases and uses focus group interviews to drive improvement and capacity building. The focus groups consisted of parents, service coordinators, AEA service providers, partner agency service providers, referral sources and Early ACCESS/AEA Leadership.

Some of the challenges to system identified are: maternal depression; drug-exposed babies, non-English speaking families, children in foster homes, safety issues, economic struggles, increasing mental health issues, increasing paperwork, shortages of some services, and differences between urban and rural sources.

The good news is of 10 cases reviewed, the majority of cases were in the maintenance zone on the scoring tool (continue planned services for positive outcomes). State and local staff collaborations were strengthened among the QSR Review Team members.

What's next for Quality Service Review? The goal is one QSR per year eventually visiting all regions. QSR's have been done in regions 267, 8, 10, 12, and 15. The QSR will continue partnering with Early ACCESS and DHS.

#### **Procedure Manual Feedback/Mary Stevens:**

The committee continues developing the Early ACCESS section of the Birth to 21 IDEA Procedures Manual. The financial and infrastructure sections will be eliminated. A final product of the Birth to 21 Manual will be ready in July with training and technical assistance to follow. It was acknowledged that the Manual will need revision after the federal Part C regulations are finalized this fall.

The Council divided into small groups to read the sections and give feedback to Mary Stevens.

#### Service Coordination/Julie Curry and Lisa Sharp:

Julie and Lisa facilitated a Service Coordination discussion, which discussed the Priority Work area the Council wanted to focus on next year, in order to get a clearer picture of what the priority work should be with the Council. Lisa gave an overview of the Service Coordination Training plan, Service Coordination Competencies and Service Coordination Outcomes. Julie then divided the group into small groups and gave them questions to answer to help narrow down what the priority work will be in the coming year. This feedback will be analyzed and brought back to the Council.

#### **Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation/Troy McCarthy:**

Troy presented certificate of appreciation to the following members whose term have expired; Kyla Alba, Carolyn Nelson, Maureen Schletzbaum, and Jan Mackey.

#### Membership Update/Kelly Hancock:

Kelly listed the members who will be reappointed for another term. She also informed the Council of names that have been given to the Governor for appointment consideration. The Council will need to fill 1 parent position, and 4 names were sent forward for consideration; Jodi Angus, Nicki Varble, Stacy Kramer and Sara Freiberg. The Council also needs to fill 3 provider positions and 5 names were put forward; Michael Acarregui, Kristine Zenk, Beth Troutman, Jennifer Lightbody, and Amy Strim.

## Calendar Dates:

## <u>2008:</u>

Thursday, September 18/New Member Orientation Friday, September 19/Meeting

Friday, November 21/Meeting

**2009:** Friday, January 16/Meeting

Friday, March 6/Meeting

Friday, May 15/Meeting

Adjournment/Troy McCarthy:
Troy adjourned the Council meeting.